(b) the action being taken to prevent the violation of P.F. laws?

THE .MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) As on 31.3.1996 the total amount of EPF dues recoverable from public sector and private sector was Rs. 13,550.23 lakh and Rs.28,589.63 lakh respectively.

(b) Legal action as provided under sections 7A, 8, 14 & 14B of the EPF & MP Act, 1952 and, where necessary, also under section 406/409 of the IPC, is taken for recovery of dues outstanding against the defaulting establishments.

**Employment growth in the context of process of economic reforms**

2491. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether the employment coutent of growth has increased in the process of economic reforms;

(b) if so, how; and

(c) the role of private sector in the generation of employment?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) Detailed study on the effect of Economic Reforms on employment or unemployment has not been made. However, results of the surveys carried out by the National Sample Survey Organisation (N.S.S.O.) reveal that the unemployment rate which was of the order of 3.77% during 1987-88 has come down to 2.56% during 1993-94.

(c) Employment in the_ organised private sector, which was of the order of 78.46 lakh as on 31st March, 1992 has gone up to around 84.68 lakh as on 31st March, 1996.

**मितव्ययता संबंधी उपायों का पालन**

2492. श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी: क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

क्या वाणिज्य मंत्रालय ने मितव्ययता उपायों का पालन करने का निर्णय किया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) इन मितव्ययता संबंधी उपायों का किस हद तक पालन किया जाना प्रस्तावित है; और

(घ) इसके परिणामस्वरूप वर्ष 1996-97 के दौरान कितनी धनराशि की बचत की जाएगी/बचत किए जाने की संभावना है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय के राज्य मंत्री (श्री बोल्ला बुलसी सैया): (क) वित्त मंत्रालय द्वारा समय-समय पर जारी किए जाने वाले वार्षिक उपाय वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में अपनाए/लागू किए जाते हैं।

(ख) प्लान स्कीमों की मंत्रालय में समीक्षा की गई और प्रम्पीडा, चाय बोर्ड, काफी बोर्ड तथा एपीडा में जो स्कीमें प्रचालन के योग्य नहीं पाई गई, उन्हें बंद कर दिया गया है।

(ग) प्लान स्कीमों की समीक्षा की हद तक वार्षिक उपायों को लागू किया जा रहा है।

(घ) इस समीक्षा से 1996-97 के दौरान 593.40 लाख रु० तक की बचत होने का अनुमान है।

**Proposal to Hike the central issue price of foodgrains under the PDS**

2493. DR. JAGANNATH MISHRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to hike the central issue price for foodgrains distribution under the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken to safeguard the interests of the weaker sections of society?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) to (c) Government has not approved any proposal for revision of the Central Issue Prices of foodgrains distributed under the P.D.S.

**Removing the ceiling in the payment of bonus and enhancing the ceiling in the payment of gratuity Act**

2494. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of LABOUR be